

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 041461

FOR COPENHAGEN FISHATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EFIS, IWC-1

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT PREPARATORY MEETING FOR CONFERENCE
OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES TO NEGOTIATE A NEW CONVENTION TO RE-
PLACE THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE REGULATION OF
WHALING, JULY 4-8, 1978, COPENHAGEN

1. AT THE JUNE 1977 MEETING OF IWC, IT WAS DECIDED THAT
THE PREPARATORY MEETING SHOULD BE OPEN TO ALL COASTAL
NATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED NATIONS. IT WAS THOUGHT, AT
THAT TIME, THAT THE PREPARATORY MEETING COULD SERVE AS A
MEANS OF INFORMING NEW PARTICIPANTS OF PAST EFFORTS TO
FORMULATE A NEW CONVENTION. AT THE DECEMBER SPECIAL MEET-
ING, HOWEVER, THE DANISH COMMISSIONER INDICATED A LACK OF
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SPACE IN WHICH TO CONVENE SUCH A LARGE MEETING. IT WAS,
THEREFORE, CONCLUDED THAT INVITATIONS WOULD BE SENT TO IWC
MEMBER NATIONS AND WHALING NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF IWC.

2. ON ASSUMPTION THAT IWC WOULD INVITE ALL COASTAL NATIONS
AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED NATION TO PARTICIPATE IN SUBJECT

MEETING, AS DECIDED AT JUNE 1977 MEETING, AND BECAUSE
PRESENT IWC CONVENTION IS OPEN TO ANY NATION TO JOIN, USG
HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING A NUMBER OF WHALING AND NON-WHALING
NATIONS TO JOIN IN WHALE CONSERVATION EFFORTS THRU IWC.
USG SUPPORTS PARTICIPATION OF WHALING NATIONS NOT MEMBERS

OF IWC IN SUBJECT MEETING AND ALSO FEELS IT IMPORTANT
FOR SEVERAL NON-WHALING NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF IWC TO BE
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. USG WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE
FOLLOWING NON-WHALING NATIONS TO SEEK INVITATIONS TO
SUBJECT MEETING: BELGIUM, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, SWEDEN,
SWITZERLAND, VENEZUELA, AND FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.
THESE NATIONS HAVE SPECIFICALLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
JOINING IWC.

3. COPENHAGEN: REQUEST FISHATT DISCUSS ABOVE WITH
DANISH OFFICIALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND REPORT THEIR
REACTION.

4. LONDON: PLEASE DISCUSS ABOVE WITH IWC SECRETARY,
DR. ROY GAMBELL, CAMBRIDGE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND
REPORT HIS REACTIONS. ALSO, PLEASE REQUEST A LIST OF THE
COUNTRIES WHICH WILL RECEIVE A FORMAL INVITATION. VANCE

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